

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

--In the embodiment of Fig. 5, the upper end 22 of the water intake duct 7, projects through an annular opening 33 of an upper annular storage tank 37, without the space 15 being used as a water storage reservoir. In this case, the lower seals [[17]] can be omitted. The storage tank 37 can function as a bearing box, and provide stiffness to the upper bearings 12, isolating deformations of the hull 2 from the bearings 12. The second duct 24 is connected to an outer wall of the tank 37.--